

sort of epididymis is also unique, as well as the wide separation of the openings of the urinary and genital ducts. No doubt the remoteness of the genital orifice from the anal fin has precluded the use of the latter as an intromittent organ, as is done in the viviparous groups of the family; in this case there is no evidence as to whether the fish is viviparous or not.

LXIX.—Description of a new Loricariid Fish of the Genus *Plecostomus* from Rio Janeiro. By C. TATE REGAN, M.A.

(Published by permission of the Trustees of the British Museum.)

*Plecostomus rachovi*, sp. n.

Depth of body 5 in the length, length of head  $3\frac{1}{5}$ . Depth of head  $1\frac{3}{4}$  in its length, breadth  $1\frac{1}{4}$ , length of snout  $1\frac{7}{8}$ , diameter of eye 8, interorbital width  $2\frac{2}{5}$ . Length of mandibular ramus 3 in interorbital width; in either jaw 20 to 22 teeth on each side. Snout ovate; supraorbital edges not elevated; temporal plates weakly carinate; occipital process well developed, somewhat acutely pointed, with a low median ridge; posteriorly it is bordered by several scutes. 32 scutes in a longitudinal series, 8 or 9 between dorsal and adipose fin, 15 between anal and caudal; upper and anterior scutes weakly carinate; lower surface of head and body covered with granular scales. Dorsal I 7; first ray a little longer than head, when laid back reaching seventh scute behind last, which is  $\frac{1}{2}$  as long. Anal I 4. Pectoral spine reaching anterior  $\frac{1}{4}$  of pelvis. Caudal emarginate. Caudal peduncle  $3\frac{1}{3}$  as long as deep. Body with dark spots, about one on each scute; spots on head smaller and more numerous; fins with several transverse bars or series of spots.

A single specimen, 135 mm. in total length, from near Rio Janeiro, presented to the British Museum by Herr A. Rachow.

This resembles *P. laplate*, Eigenm. (*P. tæniatus*, Regan), from the La Plata, in the large number of scutes, in having the occipital process bordered by several, in the rather small eye, &c. It differs in the narrower snout and smaller mouth, broader interorbital region, longer and more pointed occipital process, keeled anterior scutes, higher dorsal fin, and caudal fin barred instead of plain.